

DATE: June 15, 1995

SUBJECT: PRIDEFEST BARBECUE AND CONCERT AT BROCKTON OVAL

FOR CONSIDERATION

THAT the Board consider for approval the Vancouver Pride Society's request to hold the Pridefest barbecue and concert at Brockton Oval on Sunday, August 6th, 1995 from 4:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. with all site arrangements to the satisfaction of the General Manager, and the results of input from the Vancouver Cricket League and horticultural staff.

THAT the organizers be given approval to apply for a Special Occasion License to serve beer and wine between 4:00 p.m. and 10:00 p.m. in conjunction with their event.

POLICY

Special events of an unusual nature are brought to the Board for individual approval. The Board has a policy to govern the service of alcohol on City Parks (Appendix A).

BACKGROUND

The Vancouver Pride Society's primary reason for holding this barbecue and concert is as fundraiser for the Society and to fund expenses related to the production of Pride Day and the Pride Parade on August 7th, 1995.

The Pridefest Concert will be the highlight of the Pride weekend activities and an important part of the celebrations.

DISCUSSION

The Pridefest event is planned for Sunday, August 6th, 1995 at Brockton Oval.

The event will include a barbecue, beer garden, dance and concert performance by one of the community's musical favourites. Music will be provided by one or several local DJ's and a live music group that is preferred by the primarily gay and lesbian audience. A group has not yet been confirmed.

A maximum of 2,500 tickets will be pre-sold and access to the site will be limited to ticket holders only. Seating will be festival style on the grass.

The entire oval is enclosed by existing barriers (fencing and shrubbery). Security will be provided by a reputable professional company with a minimum of 15 security personnel at the entrance and

perimeter of the entire oval.

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The Vancouver Pride Society will also provide 10 to 15 volunteers to assist with security and crowd control.

There will be one main entrance under the bleachers on the west side of the Brockton building. See site layout (Appendix B).

There will be two doctors in attendance to provide first aid and medical attention. An effective communication system of radios and cellular phones will be established.

Fifteen to twenty portable toilets will be set up to supplement the existing washroom facilities on site.

The beer garden will be set up in a fenced area within the main site. Beer and wine will be served. The service of alcohol inside a fenced area for a major city wide event meets the requirements of the Board's policy of liquor but requires Board approval for the extension of hours from 8:00-10:00 p.m.

The organizers will try to secure an alternative venue in case of inclement weather.

Given the late date of this request and board report deadlines staff have not had time for the necessary consultation process. The Vancouver Cricket League has games scheduled on the Brockton cricket pitches that weekend and will be in the Brockton Cricket Pavilion on the August 6th evening. The Vancouver Pride Society will be consulting with the Cricket group about any potential conflicts between the two events.

Horticulture staff will also need to be consulted about the work that is usually done on the Brockton Oval field from mid July to mid August and the potential implications for set up. There will be an installed dance floor on one section of the field.

Normally a report would not be prepared until all this information had been ascertained. However, the following Board meeting is not until July 10, less than one month from the proposed event. Staff will provide the Board with supplemental information on these outstanding issues before the June 26 Board meeting.

Staff have some concerns about this type of concert/party type of event with alcohol in parks. It clearly establishes a significant precedent which will likely attract similar requests. In addition, the very short lead time imposed on the Board by the lateness of this request makes it very difficult for staff to do the necessary consultation to ensure the success of the event.

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If this event is approved staff will bring to the Board a further report with recommendations related to the establishment of a maximum attendance based on size of venue, attendance limited to advance ticket sales, approval limited to events staged by community based non profit organizations for their consitutencies, as well as a four month lead time for applications.

CONCLUSION

This is a worthwhile event for a good cause being staged by a community minded, citywide, non profit organization.

Prepared by:
Recreation Division
Vancouver Board of Parks & Recreation

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